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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3087
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN 3075
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 2158
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB 0308
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0580
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0263

CONFIDENTIAL STOCKHOLM 000059

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/24/2017

TAGS: PHUM PREL PGOV SW

SUBJECT: SWEDEN ON HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION ON

GAZA

REF: STATE 7232

Classified By: Polcouns Casey Christensen, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(c) Polcouns delivered January 24 reftel demarche urging EU consensus support for a "no" vote on the proposed Human Rights Council resolution on Gaza to MFA Director for International Law and Human Rights Bosse Hedberg. Hedberg said EU states were still deliberating their position. He understood that efforts supported by EU member states to achieve a more balanced text at the HRC had not been successful. Hedberg thought the EU votes would ultimately come out on the "no" column, although at least one EU state wanted to abstain. The internal EU debate was on agreeing an explanation of vote that would accommodate those reluctant otherwise to vote "no."